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Apology from Mrs Gorbachov

By David Tyler
Education Editor

Mrs Raisa Gorbachov, the wife of the Soviet President, has written to a British school to apologise for not being able to accept their invitation to visit.

The Gorbachovs had to postpone a planned visit to Britain because of the Armenian earthquake disaster. Mrs Gorbachov's letter also passed on the thanks of President Gorbachov to the British people for their help towards rescue and relief work after the disaster.

Six pupils aged nine from the Gloucester Junior School, Peckham, south London, had written to Mrs Gorbachov asking her to tour their school during the three-day visit to Britain by President Gorbachov.

Mrs Gorbachov's personally-signed letter, together with a picture book of the Soviet Union, was delivered yesterday by Mr Leonid Zamyatin, the Soviet Ambassador to London.

It said: "Dear Children, Thank you very much for your invitation and your kind and warm letters. I would have very much liked to come to your school, listen to the steel band and, of course, talk to you. Such is also the wish of Mikhail Sergeevich, with whom we read your letter. "As you probably know, we in the Soviet Union are deeply upset by a terrible misfortune: a frightening earthquake has taken away thousands and thousands of lives. Your coun-



ALAN WELLS

Mr Leonid Zamyatin, the Soviet ambassador, relaying Mrs Gorbachov's regrets yesterday.

try was one of the first to react to this disaster by urgently sending to Armenia a team of experienced rescuers, firemen, doctors as well as medical supplies. "This is the reason why we were unable to come to London and had to postpone the visit to Britain. I hope you are interested how Soviet children of your age live. Perhaps you would want to establish links with one of the schools in Moscow. If so, I promise you my help. "I wish you all joy, health and happiness. Mikhail Sergeevich joins me in these wishes, which we also convey to your teachers and parents. Yours sincerely, R Gorbachova." Mr Jo Bea, headmaster of the school, said: "The children are very excited that they got an answer from the Gorbachovs. We will certainly take up the suggestion to forge links with a Soviet school."

Courts set up TV links for child abuse victims

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Judges, lawyers, court officials and police yesterday saw the first live demonstration of how television links will be used in child abuse trials.

The showing, at Liverpool Crown Court, was given by officials from the Lord Chancellor's Department who are starting a nationwide programme to familiarize judges, lawyers and others with how the video links work.

It was part of a pilot project of live television links for child witnesses which is being launched in 14 court centres in England and Wales on January 5 - the first use of video links for giving evidence in criminal trials involving children.

In a recent sex ring case at the Central Criminal Court, the witnesses were screened off so that they would not have to see the defendants, but they were not in a separate room as will be the case in the 14 crown court centres; they could still be seen by judge, jury and counsel.

A camera and screen were brought in, but this was only to enable defendants to watch the witnesses give evidence, while ensuring the witnesses did not have to face the defendants.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, has welcomed the installation of the video links equipment. "It is an important development in the presentation of evidence. I hope it will

help those children who unfortunately have to give evidence in child abuse and assault cases, and I shall be most interested to see how effective it is in practice."

The new equipment has been installed under provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, 1988 which allow children under 14 to give their evidence from outside the potentially stressful environment of a courtroom.

By means of a live television link, children who are giving evidence about alleged physical or sexual offences can take part in the proceedings from a less formal room near by; they will be able to see the judge and counsel in the courtroom on a television screen.

The child, who can be accompanied by a supporter or friend, is seen by those in the courtroom on other television screens.

The reform results from concern that some children who have been victims or witnesses of abuse find the formality of court proceedings an additional trauma.

The video links are an attempt to reduce this, while maintaining the opportunity for cross-examination which is an important and central feature of the trial process.

Meanwhile, Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, has set up an advisory group under Judge Thomas

Figot, QC, to look at the practical implications of allowing the pre-recorded video statements of children who may be victims of abuse to be admissible as evidence in criminal trials.

The courts chosen for the pilot scheme are: Birmingham, Nottingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Mold, Swansea, Exeter, Winchester, Central Criminal Court, Chelmsford, Guildford, Maidstone, and Southwark.

If successful, the system could be extended to other courts throughout the country.

Equipment for the pilot scheme has been hired from Detapoint Ltd and Channel Communications plc.

Two British businessmen gave evidence last week via a satellite video conference in a trial taking place in Milwaukee.

Evidence taken over a video conference system has been admissible in the United States only since February and this is thought to be the first time witnesses have given evidence in this way.

The link was arranged by the London lawyers, Nicholas Graham and Jones, as agents Foley and Lardner, US lawyers. The evidence was given from the Maxwell Business Television Video-conferencing suite at the Inter-continental Hotel.

Church exile's anniversary

New fight over deportation

By Ian Smith

Mr Viraj Mendis, a Sri Lankan, begins his third year of self-imposed exile in a Manchester sacrity today as clerics and political activists launch a new legal offensive to prevent his deportation.

Placing one foot outside the Church of the Ascension, in the deprived inner-city area of Hulme, would mean instant arrest by police, who maintain 24-hour surveillance on Mr Mendis.

Mr Mendis, one of Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority, supports the cause of the rival Tamils. Supporters say if he were returned to Sri Lanka, he would immediately be arrested and probably executed.

The soft-spoken "refugee" who arrived in Manchester in 1973, chooses to continue to share the small priests' robing room with cassocks, candles and incense.

Supporters will attempt to have the case reopened, although appeals have so far

Defence Campaign say the present election violence in Sri Lanka is proof of the fate awaiting Mr Mendis should the Home Office carry out the deportation order.

"Of course I'm imprisoned inside the church and it is very frustrating to know there is little I can do to change the situation", Mr Mendis said yesterday. "But the alternative would mean committing suicide by voluntarily surrendering and being returned to Sri Lanka, where my fate is certain."

"There is no way I would leave voluntarily, as that would be an act of suicide. The mood in Sri Lanka is very bad and I am regarded as a traitor to the Sinhalese race for backing the Tamil cause."

"I will stay here because I have no choice. Life is a constant strain, full of frustrations, and I am constantly in the middle of a political battleground."

To keep himself busy, Mr

Mendis, who at one stage was offered a £10,000-a-year job by the Manchester City Council as an immigration adviser, keeps up his involvement with the defence campaign.

Last night a candle-lit vigil was held outside the Church of the Ascension to mark the second anniversary of Mr Mendis's claim to protection under an ancient sanctuary law which ceased to have legal meaning in 1623.

The only reason Home Office officials have not forcibly entered the church is to allow all legal channels to be exhausted and prevent what community leaders believe could develop into street riots.

Although not a Christian, Mr Mendis will again be an onlooker as the Church of the Ascension congregation celebrates Christmas.

Church members are planning Christmas gifts for their visitor, the church's most consistent attendee.

Election result, page 7

DPP clears police of trial incompetence

An inquiry by the Director of Public Prosecutions has cleared police and prosecutors of "incompetence" in the trial last year of Mr Roger Birch, aged 21, who was acquitted of murdering two girls in a wood in Brighton in 1986.

In a letter to Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, the DPP says he is satisfied the case was properly presented by experienced counsel at Mr Bishop's crown court trial, and every possible step was taken to show the jury all the material available.

Mr Bishop has issued a writ against Mr Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex, alleging wrongful arrest and malicious prosecution. Sussex police said the allegation would be strongly contested.

Recruits ill

The RAF has sent 850 recruits home early for Christmas from its training camp in Swindley, Lincolnshire, after an outbreak of meningitis. Two recruits aged 18 are being treated in hospital.

Vergers look for better conditions

By Andrew Morgan

The vergers of the Church of England, typified for so long by the flat-capped *Dad's Army* figure, are anxiously looking to a church working party to recommend improvements in their wages and status.

They perform a myriad of tasks, including cleaning vestments and the altar, carpentry, security, administration and dealing with tourists.

Vergers have declined in numbers and are largely confined to cathedrals and large parish churches. Increasingly, they are taking on a greater share of the ministry and require a detailed knowledge of their church and an understanding of its mission.

However, outside London the wages can be paltry, with some cathedral vergers earning just £3,000 a year and those in inner cities even less. Most have no pension rights and usually receive no assistance with mortgages when leaving

their accommodation, unlike other lay workers.

The church's initiative, set up at the request of the Guild of Vergers, will examine terms of employment and work conditions.

It will report to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York and the standing committee of the General Synod.

Mr David Dorey, the dean's verger at Westminster Abbey, described his church as a "role-model" in its attitude to vergers, but added that his colleagues at most others were not properly regarded.

Mr Dorey, a former secretary of the Guild of Vergers, said: "We are trying to be raised from a dog's body to a more responsible group."

"The *Dad's Army* image is way off the mark - there are many young vergers who see the job as a vocation, but they

still expect a living wage." Under a Guild of Vergers training scheme, staff are trained more for pastoral work in the ministry, such as comforting the bereaved, but that can be in addition to tending graveyards.

"There are many facets to the work and we hope the group will create a more professional attitude towards the verger", Mr Dorey said.

Several years ago, a Church House group undertook a preliminary review of vergers' conditions of work and improvements were made. The guild hopes the working group will make further recommendations.

Mr Derek Pattinson, General Synod general secretary, said: "We have to rethink the role of the verger and see if we are valuing them enough". Ultimately, though, wage rises will be decided by individual dioceses.

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Christmas would be impossible without the Jewish people

While it's true that most people wouldn't consider Christmas a Jewish holiday, *without* Jews there would be no Christmas.

Some think that Jews aren't the "Christmas kind of people" but in the beginning, that wasn't true. *Everything about Jesus* (including his Hebrew name, Y'shua) was as Jewish as the Holy Scriptures. In fact, it was the Jewish Scriptures that God gave for all people which foretold the coming of the Messiah.

Did you ever think about where Y'shua was born? He wasn't born in Buckingham Palace or even in St. Mary's Paddington! He was born in the sheep rearing capital of Israel called Bethlehem Ephrathah, also known as the City of David.

Actually, David's house might have been standing there if it hadn't crumbled before Joseph and Mary arrived. Anyway, they did come to Bethlehem just in time for the census, and not a moment too soon for the birth of "their" baby, that the words of the prophet Micah might be fulfilled:



But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from days of eternity. (Micah 5:2)

Of course, not everyone involved in the Christmas story was Jewish. Take the angel who announced the coming of the Messiah. Everyone knows that all angels are inter-denominational and non-sectarian! That angel told Joseph:

She (that's Mary) will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Y'SHUA, because he will save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)

Even though the angel wasn't Jewish, the message about saving people from sin was. Maybe some people think that words like "sin" and "saved" are taken from some Gentile religion. They're wrong. The whole idea of sin and salvation is from the Jewish Bible. It was *because* Joseph believed the Jewish Scriptures that he was expecting a Messiah, a Saviour and Deliverer who would come from the house of David.

Joseph belonged to that family, but he probably never dared to hope that it would be a close relative. (A tenth cousin, twelve times removed would have been enough.) Yet he knew the promise was to his family because it was written 700 years earlier by the prophet Isaiah:



Then Isaiah said, Hear now, you house of David!...Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:13,14)

Joseph was relieved by Isaiah's words because his betrothed, Mary, was pregnant and he knew he had no part in her condition. Mary was still a virgin, yet she was carrying a son. This was just the beginning of the specialness of that child presumed to be Joseph's.

Joseph found assurance in another Jewish prophet's words as well. While he never read the New Testament (it hadn't yet been written), he knew that there would be a new testament because of what the Jewish prophet Jeremiah wrote:

The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. (Jeremiah 31:31)

This New Covenant (that's the Jewish way to say New Testament) was to be, above all things, a *fresh start*. Joseph had a forward looking faith that saw a future with *no more war, no more hate, no more hunger and no more pollution of the human soul* (that's another way to say sin). *In fact, no more anything bad.*

From this New Covenant there would be only good, only harmony and only love. This was all to begin happening through Mary's son who would be both Jewish King and Saviour—and if you don't want a Jewish saviour—sorry, he's the only kind of saviour available. However, that should be okay since he's for anybody and everybody as Isaiah *also* said:

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. (Isaiah 9:6,7)

Note: Jews for Jesus is a member of the Evangelical Alliance of Great Britain.

Certainly today's world is not just and righteous. The reason why we have war, poverty and even parking meters is because our ancestors really messed up this whole planet. Everything got polluted — plants, animal life, the water supply. All were contaminated with a sickness worse than cancer or AIDS. This contamination is more deadly than exposure to radiation or gulping down toxic wastes. It's called *sin*. Not only does it kill, but it immediately distorts everyone's senses so that we find it hard to see or hear God. It seems to give off a sweet perfume which hides its true throat-gagging stench. Sin produces eyes that don't see, ears that don't hear, and hearts that don't love.

And the one they don't see, hear or love is God!

All this is the bad news. But it doesn't have to be that way. There is good news: Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, is the Wonderful Counsellor (and when we say that, we don't mean that he just gives good advice)! He is the Saviour of *anybody* and *everybody*! And Christmas is a holiday to be celebrated by everybody and anybody who wants what Y'shua offers.



So you see, without Jews, there wouldn't be any Christmas, and without Jews there would not be any Messiah — Handel's or otherwise. Instead, we might be singing songs to Zeus. Have you heard any Zeusmas carols lately, like maybe "O Little Town of Mount Olympus?"

Today, Jesus is as much for Jews as he ever was! But he is also the non-sectarian, inter-denominational saviour of anyone who needs salvation. Please don't assume that you're exempt from that need just because you're so clever, good looking and/or religious.

If you think you're not lost, you're more lost than you realize. Lost is what you are and lost is what you will remain unless you find out where you're going. That is something you can't know without God. He stands above the horizon beckoning you and directing you in the way you should go. So if you can't see him, it's not God who's lost. You haven't lost him, you've lost yourself.

Pretty well everyone has strayed away from the kind of place where they ought to be. Like Isaiah said:

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

We wouldn't even bring up the subject of sin, except there is a solution to the problem, an antidote to the poison and an answer to the destruction caused by sin. Y'SHUA is his name.

Even today, some Jews are looking to Y'SHUA as the one who can save. If you don't believe it is possible for Jews to believe in Jesus, you need to have your eyes opened to a little known, but nonetheless theologically important fact: *God gave the Jewish people to the world that the Messiah of Israel might become everybody's saviour.*

And if you think that Jews aren't for Jesus or Jesus isn't for Jews, we have a book that should change your mind. It's not as important as the Bible, but it's about Jewish people believing in Jesus—just like the New Covenant promises. The book is called *Jesus for Jews*. This 320 page volume is filled to overflowing with the accounts of 15 Jewish people who invite you to enter into the joy they have as they tell about their spiritual odyssey and life-fulfilling discovery — Y'SHUA!



You'll read the story of a lawyer, a holocaust survivor, a former "New Age" couple, a police officer and other Jews who think Y'shua is the Messiah. But make up your own mind. Read their stories. We're offering you this book for only £1. And we'll even pay the postage.

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Sri Lanka election

Jubilant Premadasa vows to end spiral of political violence

Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the President-elect of Sri Lanka, vowed last night that he would bring to an end the violence that has crippled this once prosperous nation.

Speaking at Colombo town hall immediately after the declaration of the final result of the election held on Monday, a cool but clearly elated Mr Premadasa, aged 64, said: "The politics of terror have no place in the temple of democracy. People have had to face danger and this must stop. This violence must be brought to an end."

Mr Premadasa appealed to the Liberation Front, which appears determined to overthrow any future government and has recently assassinated hundreds of his supporters, to enter the political mainstream and to take part in the parliamentary elections planned for February 15.

Victory against the odds

Colombo - The new President-elect of Sri Lanka is a diminutive workaholic who never does anything without first consulting his astrologer (Edward Gorman writes). It is a method which has apparently served him well over the years and, he believes, accounts for his meteoric rise against formidable odds.

Mr Premadasa has a gruelling work schedule which begins daily at 4.30am. He has a reputation for being an achiever and a stickler for detail who can terrify his staff into getting what he wants.

him believe he will do all he can to exhaust dialogue before resorting to the use of arms. In his campaign speeches he conspicuously failed to blame the JVP explicitly for violence in the south.

Unloading of poisons ship starts

A special squad of Italian workers, dressed like spacemen and protected by police, yesterday unloaded the unfortunate Karin B, the poison ship that stuffed around the world this summer in search of a home.

Japan scandal toll rises

Mr Hiroshi Matsubara, a former executive of Recruit Cosmos, the property company at the centre of Japan's widening stock-market scandal, yesterday pleaded guilty in a Tokyo court to charges of trying to bribe Mr Yanosuke Narazaki, an opposition MP, to pull his punches during parliamentary debates on the affair.

Vanuatu crisis deepens

The constitutional crisis in the South Pacific republic of Vanuatu deepened last night with the President facing imminent arrest accused of attempted treason and inciting rioting.

Hanoi troops are welcomed home



Vietnamese soldiers waving to villagers in Sa Mat yesterday as they crossed the Vietnamese-Cambodian border. They were part of a week-long operation by Vietnam to withdraw 18,000 troops, including artillery and armoured units, from western Cambodia. It is the biggest reduction in Hanoi's forces in Cambodia during 10 years of helping to fight the Khmer Rouge.

Capitalist spirit pumps life back into old Saigon and provinces

The Vietnamese Government has ordered the screening of rural party members in the South after one of the most serious protests against corrupt officials since the takeover of Ho Chi Minh City in 1975.

Several hundred farmers from the fertile Mekong Delta lodged their complaints with senior party members in the capital earlier this month. They told bow communist cadres had been taking over land given to peasants when the Communist Government came to power.

authorities turn a blind eye. Hotels with tatty sixties decor are being renovated and now offer night clubs and French food. Small, back-street bars, which kept their doors barely ajar to survive the revolution, are now wide open, playing rock music and switching on Christmas tree lights.

Peking cracks down on trade corruption

Thousands of corrupt Chinese officials who are lining their pockets through their involvement in foreign trade deals are getting their comeuppance, according to yesterday's front-page of the People's Daily.

More than 1,000 bureaucrats face criminal prosecution. Another 6,000 have already been punished. Fifty-

international trade who politically and economically exert a very bad influence. The inquiry by the Ministry of Supervision, which started in June, 1987, has covered every province, 3,000 officials, and looked at foreign trade contracts involving \$US150 billion (\$22 billion).

Massive clean-up bill for Shell

San Mateo (Reuters) - A court has ruled that the Shell Oil Company, not its insurers, will have to pay \$1.8 billion (nearly £1 billion) for cleaning up a pesticide plant site in Colorado.

Finced again

Singapore (Reuters) - A court fined Francis Seow, the Singapore opposition leader and former Solicitor-General, \$4,500 in absentia for evading income tax.

Sex change

Peking (Reuters) - Hoaxers are cashing in on China's traditional market for boy babies by attaching false male genitals to girls and selling them to gullible peasants, the New China News Agency said.

Power cut

Maputo (AFP) - Saboteurs knocked out the power supply from South Africa to Maputo, the Mozambique capital, the State Electricity Company said.

Empty jumbo

Delhi (AP) - An Air India Boeing 747 flew to Loodoo without a single passenger on board after a six-hour delay prompted ticket holders to switch to another flight, an airline spokesman said.

Nauru plea

Melbourne (Reuters) - The tiny island nation of Nauru, its landscape ruined by 70 years of mining phosphate to fertilize the farms of Australia, New Zealand and Britain, formally demanded reparations of \$61 million (\$33.5 million) from the three nations.

Bill approved

Sydney - The Australian Parliament approved a controversial war-crimes Bill, paving the way for the prosecution of up to 400 Nazis now living in the country.

Bomb found

Johannesburg - Officers of the South African security forces detonated a time-bomb in central Johannesburg after it had been discovered in a hair-dressing salon a few yards from City Hall.

Cashing in

New York (Reuters) - "Happy Birthday to You", one of the most popular songs in English, which brings in an estimated \$1 million (\$550,000) a year in royalties, will become the property of Warner Communications after the company acquires Birchtree, the current owner of the copyright, in a \$25 million deal.

Gang rape spotlights a worrying trend in Italian crime

second death of Maria Carla Cammarata. The proceedings followed the pattern of many such rape trials: that is, defence counsel, to demonstrate the relative innocence of his clients, tried to show the relative guilt of the victim.

Women's Movement in Italy and spurred them to establish a rape centre. The youths were from the Roman suburbs, the prematurely old housing estates that harrass the new Roman proletariat. Here, in the windy stairwells of Primavera, criminals are made easy.

shoplifting and bootlegging: more and more teenagers were committing "crimes against the person", which includes robbery with violence but not rape, still classed as a "crime against morals".

the South, where men will rarely testify against each other, least of all on behalf of a woman. A woman aged 21 in the Sicilian township of Mazzarino was invited to neighbours for a party and in the course of a long evening was raped by 15 teenagers, many under 16.

rape are also increasing in real terms. Feminists want Parliament to end the legal protection that shields rapists: rape should be fully acknowledged as a violent crime against the person. And it should be easier to bring a husband or lover to court in the event of a rape.

As for Maria Carla, her third, clinical death came a few weeks ago. The Court of Appeal decided that the three rapists, though guilty, were "not socially harmful" and that prison would not serve any further purpose. Their sentence was reduced to the minimum and they were freed.

Four days later Maria Carla Cammarata, who had been in a depression for months, died. The obituaries were tinged with a sadness for Italy, as well as the woman. Perhaps, said the Vatican newspaper, Osservatore Romano, "this death was not solely the result of illness".

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SPECTRUM

Make big mistakes, discover small truths

Colin Ward mourns the destruction of small enterprises in Britain, and considers the lessons to be learnt from Italy



PART 3

The traditional city had a fine grain, providing a huge range of goods and services in small workshops, factories and warehouses...

for local, skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled manual workers. It is the loss of these jobs that constitutes the inner-city employment problem...

enterprise. The Cassa Artigiana was founded to provide credit at 1 1/2 to 2 per cent. with the result that most workers are employed in factories with fewer than 50 employees...

The economic life of Emilia-Romagna, where more than a third of the workforce is self-employed and where incomes are the highest in Italy, symbolizes attitudes to the skill and autonomy of the individual worker...

decentralization. In Britain every former manufacturing city craves desperately at these parks, science centres or museums of industrial history...

TOMORROW

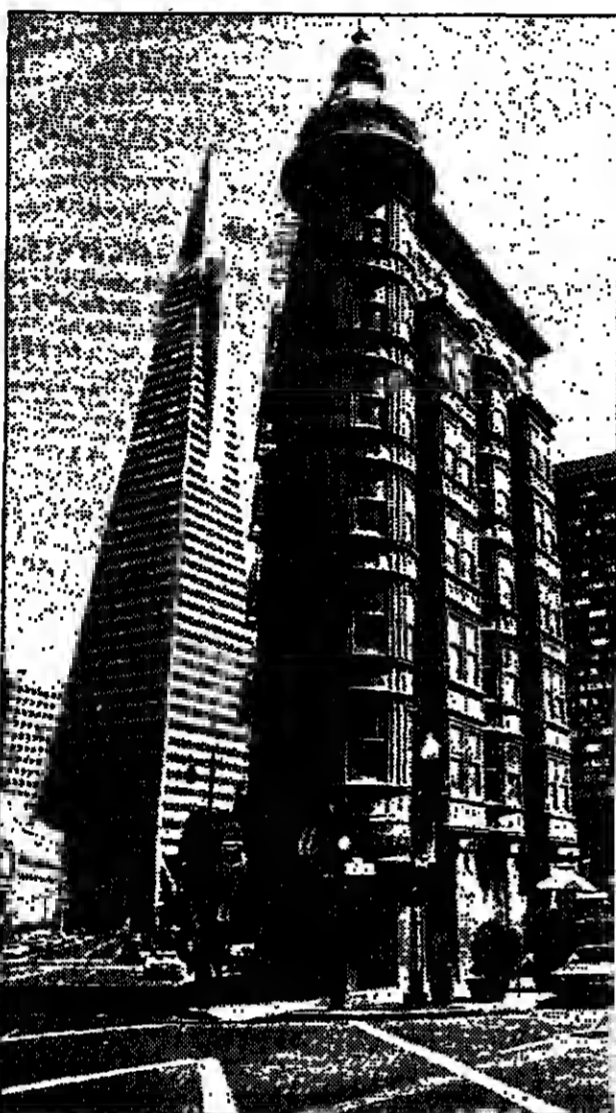
Moving towards a better inner city

Colin Ward, the author of this series, is the winner of the first Charles Douglas-Home Memorial Trust Award...

Can a city which has been shattered by an earthquake rebuild a safer tomorrow? Ivor Davis and Sally Brompton investigate

Building for a shaky future

The bleak nightly news footage from the earthquake devastated regions of the Soviet Union has been watched with more than usual empathy by the 28 million residents of America's most populous state...



Safe and sound? The Transamerica Pyramid, in San Francisco

Many Californian experts predict that the Big One, a quake in the region of 6.5 on the Richter Scale (the Armenian quake registered 7) is inevitable...

Even in San Francisco it was not until 42 years after the devastating 1906 quake, which almost destroyed the city, that the town fathers decreed that new buildings needed earthquake safety measures...

One of the most dramatic buildings on the city's skyline is the 48-storey Transamerica Pyramid, which was built in 1967 with earthquake resistant foundations...

Shaking, rattling and rolling are part of the daily life of Californians. Huge earthquake faults, including the

San Andreas, run from northern California to the south, making it one of the most active quake areas in the world. The California Institute of Technology records up to 15,000 quakes of various sizes each year...

The experts agree that, if they could start from scratch and rebuild all the cities, some 90 per cent of deaths and damage caused by quakes could be avoided...

In the construction of houses, California decrees that wood-framed buildings - a common form of construction in earthquake country - be braced with plywood walls...

Quakes, the Californian experts argue, might be un-

predictable - but death and damage can be controlled. Franklin Lew says: "Most new high-rise buildings have foundations which are supported on piles driven 40 to 150 ft or more into the ground..."

In order to prod other communities into action, California passed a bill requiring all cities and counties up to 50 miles on either side of the San Andreas Fault to look at their older buildings and suggest improvements...

That precisely California's main problem. The strict building codes exist, but through lax supervision, the rules are sometimes not worth the paper they are written on...

"Building precisely to the code increases the cost of construction - which can mean millions of dollars when you are involved in putting up a major structure..."

When he said: "If, by changing attitudes to Christmas we as a party could respond to the national demands to such a matter, then I can see no reason why, at some time in the future, given the right conditions, I am now speaking hypothetically, we should not begin to think along these lines..."

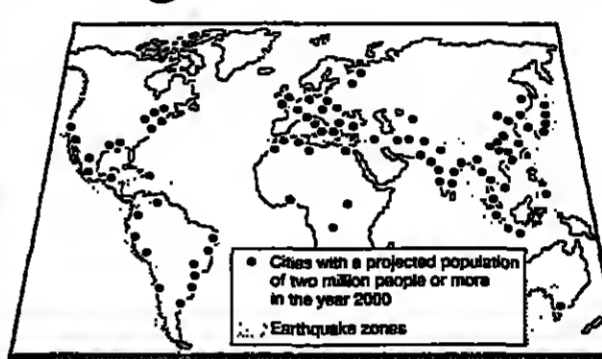
With more than 100 national earthquake codes in existence, there seems little excuse for constructing the kind of flimsy buildings which crumbled in Armenia...

Key, who heads a research fellowship at Bristol University which is currently involved in earthquake research, adds: "The Russians have a perfectly reasonable earthquake code to work to, but it is inconceivable that all those buildings in Armenia had been built to it..."

But later last night Mr Kinnoch hit back at "wild misinterpretation of his earlier statement". "I made it quite clear that if the broad majority of reasonable people favoured a moderately and sensibly Unhappy Christmas, then there might be reason to investigate the possibilities of imaginatively extending our Happy Christmas policy to incorporate some specific aspects of an Unhappy Christmas," said a furious Mr Kinnoch...

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A human danger that still lives on

There is also the temptation in a situation such as that in Armenia to rebuild as quickly as possible. "I think the Russian solution will be to provide widespread housing in a hurry by using prefabricated large-panel construction..."

The soapy facts of life

Delivering the results of lengthy research, Dr Maire Messenger Davies has told a conference organized by the British Psychological Society that soap operas are useful in letting children discover how adults behave...

frings at Crossroads Motel will teach an entire new generation all that I have learnt of life, including: In adult life, most marriages are destined to end within a few months, generally for one of two reasons: (a) The husband is shot in cold blood by a gang of ruthless killers...

Adults never leave a room quietly, instead they "storm out". As one adult "storms out," another invariably shuffles in, looking bewildered and uttering the obligatory refrain, "what's up with 'im, then?"

When he said: "If, by changing attitudes to Christmas we as a party could respond to the national demands to such a matter, then I can see no reason why, at some time in the future, given the right conditions, I am now speaking hypothetically, we should not begin to think along these lines..."



CRAIG BROWN

ADVERTISMENT AUTHORS WANTED BY N.Y. PUBLISHER Leading subsidy book publisher seeks manuscripts of all types, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, general, mystery and religious works...

New Woman magazine advertisement featuring a woman's face and text: 'The truth about SEX, SUCCESS AND SINGLE WOMEN', 'Beware of KEPT MEN', 'HOROSCOPE SPECIAL', 'Do you make strong men feel weak?'.

The magazine with your name on it OUT NOW

TIMES DIARY

MARTIN FLETCHER

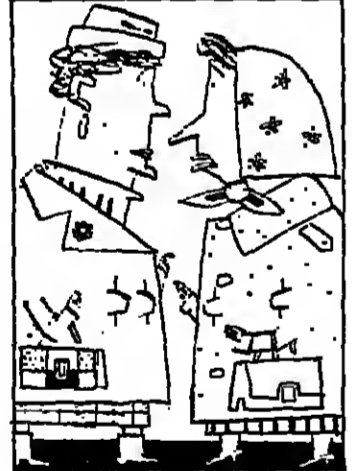
A significant election took place within the Parliamentary Labour Party last Wednesday...

By way of a Christmas gift, accountants Coopers & Lybrand have sent MPs a 1989 calendar with a cartoon for every month...

Make of this what you will. The office of Employment Secretary Norman Fowler last week wrote to Labour agriculture spokesman Ron Davies...

Let me add my mite to the Edwina Currie saga. Three hours after receiving her resignation on Friday, Mrs Thatcher attended the annual Commons children's party...

BARRY FANTONI



'Very worrying, this practice of feeding recycled taxpayers' money back to the egg industry'

Labour's Bruce Millan, who becomes Britain's second European commissioner next month, must be feeling pretty sorry...

How did the BBC get Edward Heath on to Desert Island Discs last Sunday, and why did interviewer Sue Lawley find him so unusually mellow and relaxed...

The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in the Tory party, even among the dissidents. MPs are rushing to cash in on the arrival of television cameras in the Commons...

When Mrs Thatcher brought back Peter Walker from the political wilderness and installed him as Minister of Agriculture in 1979 she offered to upgrade the ministry to a department...

Walker saved the country a small fortune in signwriter's bills by declining, telling friends that he fancied being 'the only minister in Margaret Thatcher's cabinet'...

Officially it is MAFF, or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. But the Food part of that title, with its implied responsibility to consumers...

After all, there was no slump in chip butte sales when Mrs Currie lectured northerners on their diet...

Of course there must be sympathy with the plight of many egg producers who, with their start, face a threat to their livelihoods. Of course John MacGregor, the Agriculture Minister, had to act to stabilize the industry...

Extradition from the Irish Republic to Britain in 'political' cases has been down. Patrick Ryan is not going to be extradited. And the ending of the Irish Attorney General's ruling suggests that no other terrorist suspect whose case has attracted public attention and comment is likely to be extradited in the future...

The fact is that public opinion in the Republic is basically ambivalent about the IRA and about co-operation with the British against it. And British pressure on an Irish government to extradite IRA suspects always brings the negative elements in that ambivalence to the surface...

A recent poll in the Republic shows that Haughey's personal popularity has soared to an unprecedented 62 per cent, apparently as a result of saying 'No' to Mrs Thatcher. Not a good omen for the future of extradition, or for anything else...

Mrs Thatcher, obviously, has scant patience with Irish ambivalence. Her personal freedom from ambivalence of any kind is part of her strength. I don't blame her for expressing her impatience in forthright terms, and I don't think the outcome in

They said, again and again, there would be no honeymoon. And then, right on schedule, the honeymoon started. The American Press is in love with George Bush. It didn't take much. A little wine and cheese at the new presidential retreat in Kennebunkport, Maine (Bush stably bought the necessities himself at a local store)...

Thus we enter the third stage, in a year, in the Press's attitude towards Bush. The first was contempt. For the first half of the year he was regarded as an ineffectual wimp, sure to be knocked out by a primary rival or his Democratic opponent. By winning the nomination and then unveiling a brilliantly demagogic campaign against Michael Dukakis, Bush earned the Press's respect...

Not at all. Bush now emerges as an aristocratic misanthrope and unpretentious nice guy, his campaign populist posturing and stridency forgiven and forgotten. One by one the opponents he defeated and/or denounced in the campaign - Pat Robertson, Bob Dole, Jesse Jackson, Dukakis - have dropped by for kiss-and-make-up sessions. Only Dole had the humanity to let the

Robin Oakley sees a chance for Labour in the egg controversy

Farmers ruling the roost

with commendable speed. But it is possible to reconcile Mrs Currie's much criticized remark that 'most egg production' is contaminated with salmonella with MacGregor's carefully worded insistence that it is not the case that 'most eggs' have salmonella...

MacGregor is a highly intelligent and able minister seen as a potential Chancellor. But some colleagues recall that even when he was at the Treasury his favourite reading was Farmers Weekly. He has a Norfolk constituency and they wonder if he does not have a little too much mud on his boots to make him as tough as dealing with the farming lobby...

By contrast, a minister who, whatever her other faults, showed real concern on public health hazards and had an impressive record in health education has lost her job for drawing attention to the fact that it is not safe, on official government advice, for old people, babies and others not in robust health to eat uncooked eggs...

It is clear that the most stringent guidelines are needed on what food may be given to hens in a business in which margins are slim, competition is intense and the temptation to go for the cheapest option rather than the healthiest practice is always there...

Conor Cruise O'Brien

Last chance for Hillsborough



at the least, done no good inside Northern Ireland. But she clearly still put some trust in Article 9 (a) which speaks of 'enhancing cross-border co-operation on security matters'...

— as the prima facie evidence suggests he should be — it can only be in the Republic. I agree with that part of the article in The Times last Thursday by John Kelly, the Republic's former attorney general, in which he argued that Britain should own make use of the provisions of the Irish Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act of 1976...

state of Irish public opinion. The substitute alone remains (at least in the Ryan case). If the British government will not now make use of that substitute, Ryan will not go on trial, anywhere. That seems a pity. John Kelly concluded by speaking of the need not to place 'a further burden... upon the tender growth of the Hillsborough agreement'...

Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

To bed with Bush

phobness of the occasion shine through. What's the explanation? There are psychological factors. Bush has played a skillful game of 'bad cop/good cop', his previous nastiness making his victims pathetically grateful for the sudden reversal into niceness...

There are institutional factors, too. Bush and those close to him are now in a position to reward and punish journalists for at least four years. The temptation is not to offend, at least at first, its cost is a natural law of the keep changing. Having done Bush the deed and Bush the monster, the Press is eagerly susceptible to Bush the charmer...

Four years later, the Press was heavily sick of Carter's southern poor boy routine. The Reagans were given considerable credit for bringing 'class', 'elegance' and 'dignity' back to the White House. It was frequently pointed out that the presidency combined the functions of king and prime minister. The Reagans reinstated white-tie dinners, and Reaganesque led-wed the Carter people had left the White House filthy and infested with cockroaches...

figure Bush has about two years to enjoy this before the cycle starts to turn again. Anyway, what's wrong with a honeymoon? The Bushes' style is genuinely preferable to the Reagans'. What's more, even someone who voted against him (i.e. me) suspects that the 'gentler, kinder' Bush now on display is closer to the real person than was the campaign monster...

DEC 21 ON THIS DAY 1848

The Times misjudged Louis Napoleon. Far from accepting the Republic, he destroyed it with Machiavellian cunning. Four years after his election as president he was declared Emperor Napoleon III.

[PRESIDENT LOUIS NAPOLEON]

The President of the French Republic will be this day proclaimed in the National Assembly. Immediately France, in one sense at least, will turn over a new leaf of her eventful story. The controversies, the doubts, and the animosities of a contest will give way to that deeper, though often excitement with which men watch the movements of any new power...

feeding have produced the health threat which has led to the current scare. As one minister put it: 'Edwina may have exaggerated the problem but she didn't invent it'. Which other industry could expect the same hand-out treatment if some competitors led to a slump in sales? The effectiveness of the farming lobby has ensured that...

Labour began the egg affair idly, as a hotted with the idea of driving out Mrs Currie that it failed to see the opportunities in being seen to press for better public health protection in egg production. Now, once again, the Tories look like the party of the big battalions and Labour has the opportunity to step in on the consumer's side.

Unlike extradition, internment is not necessarily a dirty word in the Republic. Both Eamon De Valera and Sean Lemass, prime minister from 1959-66, used internment effectively against the IRA. And everyone knows that if ever the IRA campaign spreads into the Republic, internment will be brought into force immediately...

Most commentators assert, generally without giving reasons, that the agreement must be kept in being. But those who so assert are invited to answer the following question: what good, exactly, has the agreement done, in what areas, that is sufficient to outweigh the fact that it has been, and is still, steadfastly rejected by the great majority of the people of Northern Ireland...

NAPOLEON. The first call of duty and the first suggestion of pride is, that he should take his stand on the very letter and spirit of the Constitution under which he is elected. Whatever the deficiencies and the follies of that artificial fabric, its leading negatives are clear: it contains neither Emperor, Consul, Dictator, nor King. If the Prince is true to that charge, he will at least hand down his name unpolluted, and constitute a glorious link between the first Emperor and a family of whose destinies no one sees the end...

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 20: Mr. George Jenkins had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Archbishop of York, assisted by the Reverend Canon Anthony Caesar (Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, Deputy Clerk of the Closet, Sub-Almoner and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen), blessed the Infant Princess, who received the names of Beatrice Elizabeth Mary.

The Princess Royal, President, The Save The Children Fund, this evening attended the Fund's "Joy to the World" Concert at the Royal Albert Hall and was received by the Chairman (The Viscount Boyd of Merton).

The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement wish to apologise for incorrectly stating that the Right Rev. W. Gordon Wheeler will soon be celebrating his eightieth birthday. It is in fact not until May 5, 1990.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir John Ramsey Willis will be held in Gray's Inn Chapel today at 5.00pm.

Mr Peter Edwards regrets that he will not be sending any Christmas cards this year but nevertheless wishes all his friends in the United Kingdom the compliments of the Season.

Memorial service Sir David Treach The Queen was represented by the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson, KCMG, at a memorial service for Sir David Treach, GCMG, MC, DL, held at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on Saturday, December 17, 1988.

Mr J.E. Balfour and Miss A.F.W. Powell The engagement is announced between Kenneth, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Oliver Balfour, of Edinburgh, and Ann, youngest daughter of Mr Michael Powell, of Brighton, and Mrs Joan Powell, of Kenilworth.

Mr J.W. Bauer and Miss C.K. Jenrett The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Colin Bauer, of Ripley, Surrey, and Mrs Peter Van Den Bergh of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Claire, daughter of Mr Frederick Jenrett, CBE, and Mrs Jennett, of Almondsbury, Bristol.

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Archaeology Nation shall speak unto nation

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

More than three thousand archaeologists from five continents will assemble in Baltimore next month for the largest archaeological congress ever held. Indonesia, the USSR and Estonia, one of its Baltic republics, the Philippines, Australia and South Africa are among the countries from which specialists in prehistory, classical and historical archaeology will converge on the convention centre for four days of scholarly exposition and discussion.

British scholars will play a prominent part with the universities of Cambridge, Oxford, London, Sheffield, Liverpool, St Andrews and Bradford represented. From Cambridge, specialists in Egyptian, Mesopotamian studies, classical archaeology, European prehistory and art history are taking part, while the Oxford contingent are mainly in the classical field.

The Scottish Institute of Maritime Studies at St Andrews is contributing a paper on the anatomy of the Spanish Armada, and other British interests are being dealt with by American archaeologists including the study of Royal Navy ships lost off Bermuda and Delaware in the eighteenth century, and the morphology of seventeenth and eighteenth century English wine bottles as a guide to chronology.

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SCIENCE REPORT Our relations, the lungfish

Newly discovered specimens of fossil fish from Australia are so well preserved that it is hard to believe that they are over 360 million years old. These fish specimens, described by John Long of the University of Tasmania in the latest issue of the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, are so pristine that the jaws can be moved up and down on the rest of the skull.

Henry Gee The fossils are found inside limestone nodules; Toombs proposed a way of seeing needed to dissolve the limestone and expose the fossil bones. In 1977, the palaeontologist Roger Miles described lungfish skulls from Greece in the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society. Brian Gardiner of London University, who rates Gogo as one of the most important fossil sites in the world, noticed that the lungfish skulls described by Miles showed evidence of internal nostrils; the excellent preservation of the skulls convinced him that what he saw were real structures, and not just holes caused by damage to the bones.

OBITUARIES SIR LESLIE GLASS

Expert on putting Britain's case

Sir Leslie Glass, KCMG, who combined a career as a diplomat which ranged successfully from ambassadorial posts in difficult places to explaining the British case through the information services to an often critical world, died on December 17, at the age of 77.

Glass was certainly one of the most unconventional British diplomats of his generation; he did not even look the part, indeed some colleagues felt he physically resembled Ernest Bevin. With a rumbustious, somewhat Dickensian laugh and large girth, he was the least pompous of envoys and could be blunt and straightforward in argument whenever roused to some thing he believed in or felt the case was going by default.

He was a versatile man and as his single published book, The Changing of Kings - Memories of Burma 1934-1949 (where he had first served an equally unconventional apprenticeship for the Foreign Service before the Second World War) showed clearly he was a very funny and entertaining writer.

Glass found his talents well suited to the changed and changing post-war world where diplomacy assumed increasingly a public relations dimension. No longer could Britain assume a take-it-or-leave-it attitude and that other nations would either understand London's stance or feel obliged to heed it if they did not.

At the war's end he was Secretary of the Information Department of the Government of Burma. His first post in the Foreign Service was as a first secretary in Rangoon. Glass was educated at Bradford, Trinity College, Oxford, and at the School of Oriental Studies of London University.

GEORFREY DOLLIMORE Development of British air-launched nuclear weapons

Mr Geoffrey Percival Dollimore, CBE, FRAeS, who died on December 6 at the age of 64, was one of the Hunting Group of Companies' most able and far-seeing directors who contributed significantly to its diversification and expansion in the aircraft, defence, military communications and electronics fields during his 36 years' service with the Group.

He was involved in some of the most promising missile programmes of the 1950s and 1960s, many of which, alas, fell victims to government cuts, as Britain gradually gave up ambitions to be among the world leaders in missile technology.

MURIEL MARTIN-HARVEY Theatre in the blood

Muriel Martin-Harvey, only daughter and sole surviving child of the actor-manager Sir John Martin-Harvey and his wife Nina de Silva, died on December 15, 1988, at Northwood, Middlesex, aged 97. She was born in London on October 4, 1891.

She married three times. By Ronald Squires, her first husband, she had a daughter, who survives her; she was subsequently married another actor, Garry Marsh, with whom she toured in Australia, and finally Anthony Huntly-Gordon, who was for 25 years Company Manager of The Mousers.

HERMES FOR HIM advertisement with image of a horse and rider.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Deaths section containing obituaries for various individuals including Mrs. Mary Conroy, Mrs. Joan Conroy, and others.

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Chairs leap from £3,000 to £82,000 in six months

Christie's is negotiating compensation with a vendor who, after seeing a pair of chairs fetched £3,200 at the auction house's South Kensington branch in July, subsequently bratched helpless as they resold for £82,000 at Sotheby's last month.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICES - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Peter...

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES - Large collection of old paintings, 19th Century...

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

OVERSEAS TRAVEL - SUPERTRAVEL, The best classic hotels...

UK HOLIDAYS

UK HOLIDAYS - THE PENNY HILL PARK HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB IN SURREY

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES - THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986, RAMSAY SYSTEM DESIGN LIMITED...

Help MEDICINE advertisement featuring a portrait of a man and text about continuing vital work.

Help MEDICINE advertisement featuring a portrait of a man and text about continuing vital work.

Help MEDICINE advertisement featuring a portrait of a man and text about continuing vital work.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Making a meal of manners?

Nowhere are children's manners — or lack of them — more talked about than at the table. Dinah Hall discovers why

Eblows off the table! Don't speak with your mouth full! No, you can't get down — wait until everybody has finished. The language of the dining table probably still rings in your ears from childhood. And yet here we are, the liberated souls of the Sixties and Seventies, who were so determined to do everything differently, demanding exactly the same standards of our children.

It is certainly easier if everyone's standards are the same. The trouble starts when two families with very different views on the upbringing of children come together, as on Christmas Day. The liberal mother ignores or smiles fondly on Bruno as he performs a war dance around the table, brandishing a turkey leg while the polite mother's face muscles tauten. "My goodness, what a lively child," she manages between gritted teeth.

And when little Camilla at the end of the meal says: "Please may I get down and thank you for a lovely lunch," it is her turn to relax while the liberal mother looks fit to throw up.

"My children have been trained to sit still until the end of a meal, so of course they start to feel hard done by. I don't know which is worse — the idea that they will copy their cousins' behaviour or the fact that what I consider in my children to be only reasonable degrees of politeness and consideration for others — please and thank you, and passing food to their grandparents — looks almost priggish in contrast."

You have only to remember *Struwwelpeter* (Routledge & Kegan Paul) — moral instruction in verse for children which was first published in Germany at the beginning of the century — and *The Story of Fidgety Philip* to see that table manners are neither a modern nor British phenomena.

But Fidgety Phil:
He won't sit still;
He wriggles
And giggles.
And, then, I declare,
Swings backwards and forwards
And tilts up his chair...
See the naughty, restless child
Growing still more rude and wild.
Till his chair falls over quite.

The fate of a modern Fidgety Philip would doubtless be to grow up into a bun-throwing Hooway Henry. But manners are far from an upper-class prerogative. In fact, those that despise manners as a bourgeois hang-up are probably right.

The upper classes have their etiquette but they have to learn it from a book (see Debutante's *Etiquette and Modern Manners* — "How to eat an orange"). And the working classes may be strict on discipline, but the table does not take priority as it does for the middle classes.

It is often at the extremes of the social spectrum that you find the worst mannered children: the deprived offspring of the depressed unemployed and the sometimes even more deprived offspring of the absentee upper-class parents.

"Bad table manners," says Dr Berger, a child psychologist at St George's Hospital, London, "are

often a way of attracting parental attention." To be belloved at is more fun than being ignored. Table manners, understandably, are not something he sees as being of vital importance in a child's development or psychology. "But it does come up from time to time as part of a package of trouble. The reason that we seem to be so irrational about table manners is because feeding is of great symbolic importance."

"When children refuse to eat, they are seen as denying their parents' love. You have to be wary of making the dining table into a battlefield, because you might be



FRANCIS MOSLEY

'Everyone else has to endure their shouting'

setting up pre-conditions for anorexia and bulimia in later life."

So that explains the story of Augustus who would not have any soup:

*Look at him, now the fourth day has come
He scarcely weighs a sugar plum;
He is a little bit of thread,
And on the fifth day, he was — dead!*

Berger advises moderation in manners. "I don't see the necessity to demand of children that they sit through the entire course of a meal when they are not being involved in the conversation. From my own children I would expect proper use of implements, but more for reasons of aesthetics and hygiene than because I am hung up on manners which is a highly class specific thing." A com-

licated way of saying bourgeois.

But then many of us would prefer to be bourgeois. "Letting children have unrestricted freedom," wrote American psychiatrist Rudolf Dreikurs in the 1960s, when being liberal with your child was just beginning to become fashionable, "has made them tyrants and their parents slaves."

Today, even the most easy-going child care experts, such as Penelope Leach — of the Children-have-Rights-Too school of thought, advocate the inculcating from an early age of basic standards of behaviour at the table.

These without children can perhaps take a more objective view. Parents who cannot control their small children often find themselves becoming more and more isolated from their childless friends. A young journalist, far from reactionary in her views, complained that bad mannered children bring everyone down to the lowest common denominator.

"I went to a dinner party at some friends who had a three-year-old. They were both professional, educated people — doctors in fact — but they just went down to their child's level, pandering to his every whim, so that the whole dinner revolved around him."

Nannies who see their immaculately behaved charges turn into ill-bred monsters at weekends put it down not to laziness but over-indulgence, with the parents compensating for guilt about being away during the week.

Virginia McLean, who trained and worked as a nanny for several years, but is now reading psychology at Birmingham University, says: "The parents don't like to make an issue of it so the child wins. And for some reason it seems to be a strategically important victory."

"Mealtimes are the time when you can and should enforce rules that they can obey. But you have to set an example — I think it is very important to sit down to meals with the children, not just throw food at them."

Cultural changes in eating have contributed to a decline in standards. Meals on the move and television suppers have reduced eating to a mere bodily function. "Sharing meals reinforces the family circle," says Gillian Graves, an infant school teacher who has two young daughters.

"You have to work out what you consider acceptable standards of behaviour at table — for me that is sitting down to a meal, appreciating what you are eating and not doing anything obviously grotesque like spitting food out. But it is more a case of motivating your children to realize themselves what those standards are."

Manners are the public face of the family, which is why, sometimes, we perhaps care too much.

Sally used to enjoy buying last-minute presents for her family, but this year, with just four shopping days to Christmas, it's different. "I'm paranoid that something will fall off a shelf and into my bag," says the 37-year-old mother. Last month, after looking for stocking fillers in her local chain store, Sally was wrongly accused of stealing.

British shops lose more than £1.5 billion every year through theft, and December is a particularly tempting time. Harry Shepherd, director of the Oxford Street Association, confirmed that crime rises in proportion to takings: "If they double, so does theft."

But in the fight to combat crime, mistakes are sometimes made. In Sally's case, she arrived home to find two police officers on the doorstep. "They asked me to empty my bag," she recalls. "Luckily I had a receipt for every item — but what if I hadn't?" The police said they had been called by the store's detectives and apologized, but Sally, who says she was made to feel like a criminal in front of neighbours, has so far failed to extract a written apology from the store.

In desperation, she turned to her local Citizen's Advice Bureau, which referred her to Crisis Counselling for Alleged

An uplifting experience

Many shoppers are wrongfully accused of stealing. Can crisis counselling help?

Shoplifters (CCAS). With its help she has been encouraged to continue fighting for some sort of redress.

CCAS, which is part-funded by the London Borough Grants Unit, was set up in 1981 by Harry Kauffler, whose work for the National Consumer Protection Council convinced him of the need for such an organization. He realized that many wrongfully accused people are ignorant of their rights and may be persuaded to act against their own interests. Each year a nationwide network of CCAS counsellors, supported by doctors and psychiatrists, helps between 3,000 and 4,000 people. They usually give telephone advice but in desperate, sometimes suicidal, cases they make home visits.

CCAS helps both those who are innocent, and others who, in their view, acted in

"mitigating circumstances", possibly because of poverty, confusion or medical reasons. They never help anyone who they believe acted with criminal intent — and if they have a criminal record, Kauffler tells them to get a good solicitor.

Patricia was on tranquillizers and having psychiatric treatment when she was picked up in a Croydon department store for shoplifting. When the police delivered a court summons at 10pm, she telephoned Kauffler threatening to kill her children and herself. With his help she found the courage to go to court to explain her case. At Kauffler's North London home there are filing cabinets full of letters from grateful clients: "Thank you Harry for saving my life" is typical.

Shepherd, however, believes the counsellors could do more harm than good. He says they

are "untrained and unprofessional". According to Shepherd, if someone is wrongfully arrested, they should bring a case against the store and attempt to get damages. "But mistakes are seldom made. Most store detectives are ex-police and it should be an invariable rule that they never make an arrest unless they see something with their own eyes."

Kauffler, whose group also supports shoppers when they take action against stores, is convinced that shops are mostly the architects of their own misfortune. He cites trumping shop displays and sweets arranged at child-eye level. Shepherd disagrees: "Since when has temptation been an excuse for rape?" Kauffler thinks stores should be forced to staple receipts to bags and security staff should be better vetted.

But the two agree that stores should make more efforts to check theft by staff. As a member of the Home Office working group on shop theft, Shepherd says: "We concluded that in some cases it may split 50-50 between employees and customers. Theft by staff is a damn sight more difficult to stop and often it is complicated by collusion between them and customers."

Shepherd, however, believes the counsellors could do more harm than good. He says they

Jane Ferguson

Image booster

You have to be fairly successful to fork out £900 for a two-session course, and Price Waterhouse's new "Strategies for the Successful Woman" is aimed at those in senior management only, who may have reached a career plateau.

Run at the Warwick Management Centre in Slough, with one session already started this month and three more planned next year, it covers power and personal effectiveness, organizational politics, self-image and communication, alliances and support, self-projection and planning personal strategy. You can take one module on its own for £500 plus VAT. Details from Marion Gillic at Warwick Management Centre (tel 0753 34111).

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Quote me . . .



"Nowadays, if you can manage such a friendship with your ex-spouse it's the only sensible thing to do because of all those years together. With children to worry about, and love, it can be very good."

Michael Crawford

In scents

The Nottingham-based Le Pew perfumery, founded by Glenn Mamerfield, a 25-year-old marketing man from Sheffield, is to offer a bespoke perfume service next year. Its perfumers will create a unique blend for a customer for around £2,000. In the meantime you will have to settle for their £230-a-bottle *Esprit de Grasse*, bottled in lead crystal with the name in

gold. The Nottingham shop manageress, Jayne Bradley, says the concept of an independent perfumery, with saleswomen not working for a particular perfume house, has proved popular since the shop's opening in November. Mamerfield plans to open branches in Newcastle, Dudley, Liverpool and Edinburgh soon.

Flights of fancy

Does one of your loved ones fancy a Ferrari? If the spirit is willing but the wallet weak, why not indulge him or her with a Ferrari Kite? It is a four-foot square kite costing just £11.95 (plus 75p postage and packing) from M.L.A., 242/244 St John Street, London EC1P 4PH (tel 01-250 3988), or direct from the Kite Shop in Neal Street, Covent Garden. Semi-circular, with "cells" to catch the wind, the kite has no sticks or spars to break and is supposed to be impervious to wet weather. It can go like the wind without taking a ticket, and there are no worries about parking. The Ferrari kite, incidentally, is nothing to do with Ferrari cars. Michael Lazarus, who markets it, explains: "It was invented by a Mr Ferrari and, fortunately, although Ferrari has registered its name for almost every conceivable thing, it did not think of registering it for kites."

Kitchen help

Should you find yourself on Christmas eve with a rock-solid frozen turkey and burnt mince pies, do not despair. Once again Bejam, together with cookery experts from *Woman's Own*, is running a telephone cookery helpline, between 10am and 4pm on Saturday, to offer expert advice and consolation on everything from how to thaw the turkey in the microwave to salvaging burnt pies, skinning chestnuts and making cranberry sauce. The number on Saturday is 01-951 1313.

Licking cancer

The stamps from your Christmas post could help research into breast cancer. The Jennie Campbell Appeal sells thousands of stamps to help fund its campaign against unnecessary mastectomies. The appeal organizer, Pam Nuthall, says: "I used to be the case that if you had a breast lump, off it came, but things are gradually changing." The appeal is named after a cancer-stricken journalist who refused a mastectomy and took part in successful radiotherapy trials. She died in 1981 of a separate cancer. Send stamps to the appeal at 29 St Luke's Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 7JZ.

Victoria McKee

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.
6.40 Leon Errol in Deal Me In (b/w).
7.00 Breakfast Time with John Stapleton and Jeremy Paxman.

ITV/LONDON

- 8.00 TV-am begins with News and The Morning Programme.
8.30 The Muppet Show.
9.25 Rocky Lappers. Game show hosted by Lynne Bettel.

A couple of little terrors



TELEVISION CHOICE
Poison Candy (BBC1, 9.30pm) may be taken as an awful warning about the dangers of television violence.

John Hurt and Karen Young as a couple who regret making friends with two young girls while on holiday (BBC1, 9.30pm)

BBC2

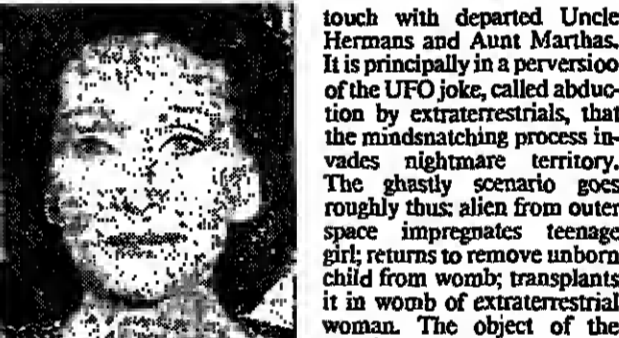
- 9.00 Ceefax.
12.00 Film: The Mexican Spitfire Out West (1940, b/w) starring Lure Velaz and Leon Errol.
1.10 Tom and Jerry Festival 1.25.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 Film: Cheer Boys Cheer (1935, b/w) starring Billie and Edmund Gwenn.
11.05 Film: Gaiters (1940, b/w) starring the Crazy Gang.

Vincente Minnelli was one of Hollywood's great stylists, a director noted for his visual flair and use of colour. His speciality was the musical.

It's all very strange



RADIO CHOICE
As twist-in-the-tail comedies go, Perry Pontac's Strange Delights (Radio 4, 3.00pm) goes very well indeed.

Sian Phillips is in a comedy with a twist (R4, 3.00pm)

stition and gullibility, the documentary compiles a list of abuses of common sense that defies belief. Not all are necessarily harmful, though danger must lurk in the 'Hypocritism by Video' kit.

Radio 3

- Barbini with Evelyn Rothwell, oboe; Heinrich Ernst (Etude No 8 and The Last Rose of Summer).
1.00 News.

Radio 4

- 1.00 News.
1.05 Shipping.
6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day.



Mica Paris performs one of her own songs (C4, 9.15pm)

- BBC1 WALES: 6.30am-7.00 News and Weather SCOTLAND: 10.55am-11.00am News.
11.00am-11.10am News.
11.10am-11.20am News.

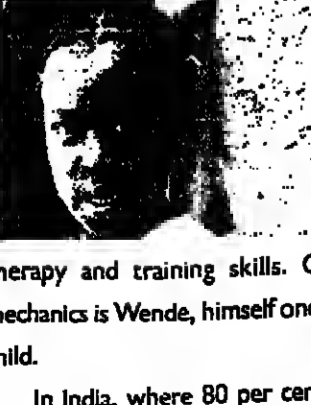
- VARIATIONS: 12.55am Donohue 1.50 Wrestling.
2.45 Twilight Zone 3.40 Battle of the Monks Trucks 4.10-5.00 Job-Indor.

- S4C: 10.30am Film: Love and the Devil (1970) (b/w) Cwll 12.30am Newyddion 12.35am Ffalellan 1.00am Just for Fun 1.30am.

Let there be right.

The diseases of poverty, like polio and TB, are still crippling millions of children. Christian Aid is funding work in many parts of the world to change living conditions and give children their right to life.

At the Ivy Caltaux Centre in Burkina Faso, West Africa, more than 3,000 children have had help with artificial limbs, physiotherapy and training skills. One of the mechanics is Wende, himself once a disabled child.



In India, where 80 per cent of people live in villages, children in particular suffer chronic and preventable diseases like diarrhoea. In Tamil Nadu, Christian Aid is working in the Centre for Rural Health and Social Education, which teaches children to

Radio 1

- VHF stereo and MW (medium wave) News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm, then at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 10.30pm, 11.30pm, 12.30am.

Radio 2

- VHF stereo and MW (medium wave) News on the hour.
1.00 News.
1.05 Shipping.

Radio 5

- 1.00 News.
1.05 Shipping.
6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day.

Radio 6

- 1.00 News.
1.05 Shipping.
6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day.

Radio 7

- 1.00 News.
1.05 Shipping.
6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day.

JOIN WITH THE POOR TO MAKE A JUST WORLD FOR CHILDREN

To: Christian Aid, P.O. Box 100, London SE1 7RT.
I enclose cheque/P.O. for £200 £100 £50 £25 £10 £5.
No. of phone 01-620 4444 and ask for Credit Card department.



Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information with columns for Bid, Offer, Weekly Chng, and Yld. Includes sections for UK Unit Trusts, Overseas Unit Trusts, and various investment categories like Equity, Bond, and Money Market.

The prices in this section refer to Monday's trading

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for High/Low, Bid, Offer, and Yld. Lists various companies and their share prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and other Sterling rates. Includes market rates for December 20.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, Hong Kong, etc.

MONEY MARKETS

Table of money market rates including Euro Money Deposits and Bullion/Gold prices.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods like oil, sugar, and other raw materials.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for Bid, Offer, Weekly Chng, and Yld. Lists various trust funds and their performance.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts like Treasury, Euro, and Japanese.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON FOX, LONDON EXCHANGE, and LONDON METAL COMMODITY.

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your share price movements...

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Code or Size, Price, Change, %

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend Please make a note of your daily totals...

Table with columns: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun

BRITISH FUNDS

1988 High Low Stock Price Div % YTD

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

UNDATED

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

INDEX-LINKED

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Div % YTD

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Modest gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 12. Dealings end December 23...

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close...

(VOLUMES PAGE 22)

BREWERIES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

BUILDING, ROADS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

FINANCE, LAND table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

FINANCIAL TRUSTS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

FOODS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

DRAPERY, STORES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

HOTELS, CATERERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

ELECTRICALS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

INSURANCE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

LEISURE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

MINING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

SHIPPING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

SHOES, LEATHER table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

TEXTILES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

TOBACCO table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

L-R table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

S-Z table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

OILS, GAS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

PROPERTY table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

INSURANCE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %

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Ex dividend & Ex Div Forecast dividend is interim payment...

